

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-codebook fixed bitrate CELP signal block encoding/decoding method, including the steps of:

selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification from a pre-determined, signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications; and

encoding/decoding each signal block by using an excitation codebook having said selected excitation codebook identification;

wherein said pre-determined signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications is defined by cyclically stepping through each excitation codebook identification.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 or 7, including the steps of providing several sets of excitation codebooks;

determining, for each signal block, a corresponding set of excitation codebooks based on previously determined values of other signal block characterizing parameters;

selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification in the determined set utilizing a deterministic selection procedure that is independent of signal type; and

encoding/decoding each signal block by using an excitation codebook from said determined set having said selected excitation codebook identification.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 or 7, including the steps of

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selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification utilizing a deterministic selection procedure that is independent of signal type;

providing several sets of excitation codebooks;

determining, for each signal block, a corresponding set of excitation codebooks based on previously determined values of other signal block characterizing parameters; and

encoding/decoding each signal block by using an excitation codebook from said determined set having said selected excitation codebook identification.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein said other parameters are channel protected.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein only parts of said channel protected parameters that allow error detection are used.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A multi-codebook fixed bitrate CELP signal block encoding/decoding method, including the steps of:

selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification from a pre-determined, signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications; and

encoding/decoding each signal block by using an excitation codebook having said selected excitation codebook identification;

~~The method of claim 1, 2, or 3~~, wherein said deterministic selection procedure is defined by randomly stepping through each excitation codebook identification in said sets of excitation codebooks.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 or 7, wherein said excitation codebooks are fixed excitation codebooks.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said excitation codebooks are algebraic excitation codebooks.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 or 7, wherein said signal block is an audio frame.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 or 7, wherein said signal block is an audio subframe.

12. (Currently Amended) A multi-codebook fixed bitrate CELP signal block encoder/decoder, including:

an excitation codebook selector for selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification from a pre-determined, signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications; and

means for encoding/decoding each signal block by using an excitation codebook having said selected excitation codebook identification;

wherein said excitation codebook selector cyclically steps through each excitation codebook identification.

13. (Currently Amended) The encoder/decoder of claim 12 or 16, including several sets of excitation codebooks;

a set selector for determining, for each signal block, a corresponding set of excitation codebooks, based on previously determined values of other signal block characterizing parameters;

an excitation codebook selector for selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification in the determined set utilizing a deterministic selection procedure that is independent of signal type; and

means for encoding/decoding each signal block by using an excitation codebook from said determined set having said selected excitation codebook identification.

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14. (Currently Amended) The encoder/decoder of claim 12 or 16, including an excitation codebook selector for selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification utilizing a deterministic selection procedure that is independent of signal type;

several sets of excitation codebooks;

a set selector for determining, for each signal block, a corresponding set of excitation codebooks based on previously determined values of other signal block characterizing parameters; and

means for encoding/decoding each signal block by using an excitation codebook from said determined set having said selected codebook identification.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) A multi-codebook fixed bitrate CELP signal block encoder/decoder, including:

an excitation codebook selector for selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification from a pre-determined, signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications; and

means for encoding/decoding each signal block by using an excitation codebook having said selected excitation codebook identification;

~~The encoder/decoder of claim 12, 13, or 14, wherein said excitation codebook selector pseudo-randomly steps through each excitation codebook identification.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The encoder/decoder of claim 12 or 16, wherein said excitation codebooks are fixed codebooks.

18. (Previously Presented) The encoder/decoder of claim 17, wherein said excitation codebooks are algebraic excitation codebooks.

19. (Currently Amended) An excitation codebook selection method for multi-codebook fixed bitrate CELP signal block encoding/decoding, including the step of:

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selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification from a pre-determined, signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications, said codebook identification identifying a particular excitation codebook;
wherein said pre-determined signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications is defined by cyclically stepping through each excitation codebook identification.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Currently Amended) An excitation codebook selection method for multi-codebook fixed bitrate CELP signal block encoding/decoding, including the step of:
selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification from a pre-determined, signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications, said codebook identification identifying a particular excitation codebook;

~~The method of claim 10, wherein said pre-determined signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications is defined by pseudo-randomly stepping through each excitation codebook identification.~~

22. (Currently Amended) A codebook selection apparatus for multi-codebook fixed bitrate CELP signal block encoding/decoding, including:

an excitation codebook selector for selecting, for each signal block, a corresponding excitation codebook identification from a pre-determined, signal block independent sequence of codebook identifications, said excitation codebook identification identifying a particular excitation codebook;

wherein said excitation codebook selector pseudo-randomly steps through each excitation codebook identification.

23. (Previously Presented) The encoder/decoder of claim 22, wherein said codebook selector cyclically steps through each excitation codebook identification.

24. - 26. (Canceled).